



## **Home Learning Policy**

### **Spaldwick Community Primary School**

**Person Responsible:** Headteacher, Governors

**Review Date:** Annually

**Distribution to:** All staff, Governors

**November 2014:** Policy adopted by Governors

**October 2019:** Policy reviewed by Staff, Governors and Parents

**Next Review:** September 2020

## Introduction

Evidence suggests that:

*'short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school, are likely to be more effective than regular daily homework.'*

Home learning promotes independent learning and an understanding that learning can take place beyond the classroom. At school, staff will **teach** the children knowledge, skills and understanding and by working in partnership with home, we expect parents and carers to **support** the learning process to ensure that their child reaches their potential and develops a lifelong love of learning.

## Aims

Home learning is encouraged throughout the school. It:

- reinforces knowledge, skills and understanding and promotes their application
- encourages independence and self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their own learning
- sets standards for life as children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for their future school career and life beyond
- fosters positive home/school relationships

## Types of Home Learning

### Reading

We expect children to read between three and five times a week, depending on their age. Reading at home should be a pleasurable experience and valued at all times. We will send home reading books that children can read confidently to encourage enjoyment, we do not expect children to struggle or make lots of errors. We ask parents and carers to support us to teach reading by nurturing a lifelong love of books. Parents and carers are expected to initial their child's reading diary each time they share reading with them. This does not have to be the school reading book. Children will have a Home Learning log to record their reading activities based on their individual talents and interests.

### Spellings

Children will be taught to spell using a structured approach. At the beginning of each academic year, children will receive the National Curriculum word list for their year group. They are expected to revisit the word lists regularly to ensure they can confidently spell the words by the end of the year. We ask parents to support their children to practise the spellings on the list regularly. Children will be tested throughout the year.

### Multiplication tables

To meet national expectations, children are expected to know the following number facts by the end of the following years:

Year Group Requirement	To Know by Heart
By the end of Year 2	Multiplication and division facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables
By the end of Year 4	All multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12

### Maths

All Year groups will have access to Mathletics. When a unit of work has been taught in class, teachers will set home learning linked to the unit to enable children to consolidate and practise the taught sessions.

## Differentiation

Home learning will be differentiated to the needs of the individual child. Where children need extra support, teachers will set individual home learning to address gaps in knowledge, skills or understanding.

In the run up to SATs Year 6 home learning arrangements will respond to the learning needs of the individual child. Booster classes will be run at the end of the school day where necessary.

## Marking and feedback

Home learning will be acknowledged by the Class Teacher or Teaching Assistant in line with our marking and feedback policy. House points will be awarded for home learning that is completed well.

## Home Learning Schedule

Home learning will be given on a regular basis and it will be age appropriate. Occasionally home learning will vary in response to a particular activity such as an educational visit, in these circumstances the teacher will write an explanatory letter.

## Time allocations and activities

Children should complete 5 sessions of home learning each week. It can be completed at any time during the week, depending on what suits family life. It can be completed in the morning or after school, during the week or at weekends. However, it is best to complete 'a little a day'. We suggest the following as a daily routine in order to make home learning manageable.

Year Group	Daily Time Expectation	Home Learning Activity
Reception	5 - 10 minutes	Sharing a book three to five times a week and Mathletics when appropriate
Year 1 & 2	10 minutes	Reading five times a week, spelling practice, Mathletics activities and Times Tables Rockstars when appropriate
Year 3 & 4	15 minutes	Reading five times a week, spelling practice, Mathletics activities and Times Tables Rockstars
Year 5 & 6	20 minutes	Reading five times a week, spelling practice, Mathletics and Multiplication Tables, weekly Read Theory Comprehension tasks